

**THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method for distributing a public information release authorization (PIRA) form over an intranet, the method comprising:
  - creating and submitting a PIRA form over the intranet, the PIRA form being submitted by an author to at least one approver via e-mail with a hyperlink to the PIRA form; and
  - transmitting comments for the PIRA form by the at least one approver via e-mail.
2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the intranet includes a plurality of users enrolled therein with each user having associated personnel information stored within the intranet, the method further comprising:
  - selecting a first level of approvers from among the plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA form; and
  - transmitting a first notification message via e-mail to the first level of approvers, the first notification message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.
3. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the first level of approvers comprises at least one of a manager, a program manager and a technical peer reviewer.
4. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the first level of approvers is selected by the author.
5. A method according to Claim 2 further

comprising creating a profile of the PIRA form in response to accessing associated personnel information of the author; and wherein at least one of the first  
5 level of approvers is selected based upon the created profile.

6. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the first level of approvers reviews the PIRA form concurrently.

7. A method according to Claim 2 further comprising:

selecting a second level of approvers from among the plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA  
5 form; and

transmitting a second notification message via e-mail to the second level of approvers, the second notification message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

8. A method according to Claim 7 wherein the second level of approvers comprises at least one of a security administrator, a system administrator, a contracts administrator, a communications  
5 administrator, an export/import administrator and a legal administrator.

9. A method according to Claim 7 wherein the second level of approvers is selected by a system administrator.

10. A method according to Claim 7 wherein each of the second level of approvers reviews the PIRA form sequentially.

11. A method according to Claim 10 further comprising stopping approval of the PIRA when one of the second level of approvers rejects the PIRA form.

12. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the creating comprises including an attachment to the PIRA form.

13. An intranet for distributing a public information release authorization (PIRA) form comprising:

5 a first software module for creating and submitting a PIRA form over the intranet, the PIRA form being submitted by an author to at least one approver via e-mail with a hyperlink to the PIRA form; and  
a first software module for transmitting  
10 comments of the PIRA form by the at least one approver via e-mail.

14. An intranet according to Claim 13 wherein the intranet includes a plurality of users enrolled therein with each user having associated personnel information stored within the intranet, the  
5 method further comprising:

a third software module for selecting a first level of approvers from among the plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA form; and  
a fourth software module for transmitting a  
10 first notification message via e-mail to the first level of approvers, the first notification message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

15. An intranet according to Claim 13 wherein the first level of approvers comprises at least

one of a manager, a program manager and a technical peer reviewer.

16. An intranet according to Claim 13 wherein the first level of approvers is selected by the author.

17. An intranet according to Claim 14 further comprising a fifth software module for creating a profile of the PIRA form in response to accessing associated personnel information of the author; and  
5 wherein at least one of the first level of approvers is selected based upon the created profile.

18. An intranet according to Claim 13 wherein the first level of approvers reviews the PIRA form concurrently.

19. An intranet according to Claim 14 further comprising:

a sixth software module for selecting a second level of approvers from among the plurality of  
5 users for reviewing the PIRA form; and

a seventh software module for transmitting a second notification message via e-mail to the second level of approvers, the second notification message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

20. An intranet according to Claim 19 wherein the second level of approvers comprises at least one of a security administrator, a system administrator, a contracts administrator, a  
5 communications administrator, an export/import administrator and a legal administrator.

21. An intranet according to Claim 19 wherein the second level of approvers is selected by a system administrator.

22. An intranet according to Claim 19 wherein each of the second level of approvers reviews the PIRA form sequentially.

23. An intranet according to Claim 19 further comprising an eighth software module for stopping approval of the PIRA when one of the second level of approvers rejects the PIRA form.

24. An intranet according to Claim 13 wherein the first software module for creating and submitting the PIRA form comprises including an attachment to the PIRA form.

25. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure, the computer-readable medium comprising:

5 a first data field containing data representing a public information release authorization (PIRA) form created by an author, the PIRA form to be submitted over an internet;

10 a second data field containing data representing an e-mail message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form, the e-mail message to be transmitted to at least one approver via e-mail; and

a third data field containing data representing comments of the at least one approver, the comments to be transmitted via e-mail.

26. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25 wherein the intranet includes a plurality of users enrolled therein with each user having associated

personnel information stored within the intranet, the  
5 computer-readable medium further comprising:

a fourth data field containing data for  
selecting a first level of approvers from among the  
plurality of users for reviewing the PIRA form; and

a fifth data field containing data for  
10 transmitting a first notification message via e-mail to  
the first level of approvers, the first notification  
message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

27. A computer-readable medium according to  
Claim 25 wherein the first level of approvers comprises  
at least one of a manager, a program manager and a  
technical peer reviewer.

28. A computer-readable medium according to  
Claim 25 wherein the first level of approvers is  
selected by the author.

29. A computer-readable medium according to  
Claim 26 further comprising a fifth data field for  
creating a profile of the PIRA form in response to  
accessing associated personnel information of the  
5 author; and wherein at least one of the first level of  
approvers is selected based upon the created profile.

30. A computer-readable medium according to  
Claim 25 wherein the first level of approvers reviews  
the PIRA form concurrently.

31. A computer-readable medium according to  
Claim 26 further comprising:

a sixth data field for selecting a second  
level of approvers from among the plurality of users  
5 for reviewing the PIRA form; and

a seventh data field for transmitting a second notification message via e-mail to the second level of approvers, the second notification message having a hyperlink to the PIRA form.

32. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 31 wherein the second level of approvers comprises at least one of a security administrator, a system administrator, a contracts administrator, a communications administrator, an export/import administrator and a legal administrator.

33. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 31 wherein the second level of approvers is selected by a system administrator.

34. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 31 wherein each of the second level of approvers review the PIRA form sequentially.

35. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 31 further comprising an eighth data field for stopping approval of the PIRA when one of the second level of approvers rejects the PIRA form.

36. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25 wherein the first data field for creating and submitting the PIRA form comprises including an attachment to the PIRA form.